

MINUTES

DAKOTA COUNTY PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

September 21, 2010

14955 Galaxie Avenue, Conference Room L139, Apple Valley, Minnesota

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commissioner Paul Krause, Chair of the Physical Development Committee of the Whole, called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m. Commissioners in attendance:

Commissioner Kathleen Gaylord, District 2 (left the meeting at 12:35)
 Commissioner Thomas Egan, District 3
 Commissioner Nancy Schouweiler, District 4
 Commissioner Liz Workman, District 5
 Commissioner Paul J. Krause, District 6

Absent

Commissioner Joseph A. Harris, District 1
 Commissioner Willis E. Branning, District 7

Also in attendance were:

Brandt Richardson, County Administrator
 Lynn Thompson, Division Director
 Jay Stassen, Assistant County Attorney
 Jeanne Nash Hoffmann, Administrative Coordinator

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

There was no new staff to introduce this month.

3. AUDIENCE

Chair Krause asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Committee on an item not on the agenda or if anyone wished to discuss an item on the Consent Agenda. No one came forward.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Gaylord, Second by Commissioner Egan, and passed on a 5-0 vote (in the absence of Commissioners Branning and Harris) to approve the agenda as presented on September 21, 2010.

5. CONSENT/INFORMATION AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Egan, Second by Commissioner Workman, and passed on a 5-0 vote (in the absence of Commissioners Branning and Harris) to approve the consent agenda.

5.1 – Minutes Of The August 17, 2010 Meeting

5.2 –Authorization To Execute Joint Powers Agreements And Amendments To Joint Powers Agreements For Technical Assistance in Street Naming And Address Assignments

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 08-483 (October 21, 2008), the County Board repealed County Ordinance No. 51 and adopted the Uniform Street Naming And Addressing System (USNAS) Procedural Manual, which defined a common system for naming streets and assigning addresses; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 09-287 (June 16, 2009), the County Board authorized the Physical Development Director to execute separate joint powers agreements with those cites and townships within Dakota County that

adopt, by ordinance, the Uniform Street Naming and Addressing Procedural Manual and request that County staff provide technical assistance to determine conforming street names and addresses on a cost-recovery basis; and

WHEREAS, by that same resolution, the County Board approved a template joint powers agreement for the provision of technical assistance in street naming and address assignments; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County executed joint powers agreements with the City of Coates and the Townships of Castle Rock, Douglas, Empire, Eureka, Greenvale, Hampton, Nininger, Randolph, Ravenna, Sciota, and Waterford; and

WHEREAS, the term of the aforementioned joint powers agreements expire as of December 31, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the parties desire to extend the term of the joint powers agreements; and

WHEREAS, there may be other cities and townships that desire to execute a joint powers agreement with Dakota County for the provision of technical assistance in street naming and address assignments; and

WHEREAS, the template joint powers agreement needs to be modified to make it consistent with the amendment being approved for the above mentioned executed joint powers agreements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Physical Development Director to execute the first amendment to the separate joint powers agreements, as presented to the Physical Development Committee of the Whole on September 21, 2010 subject to the availability of County staff resources, and subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Physical Development Director to execute separate joint powers agreements with cities and townships within Dakota County that request the County to provide technical assistance for naming streets and assigning addresses, as presented to the Physical Development Committee of the Whole on September 21, 2010, subject to the availability of County staff resources and subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

5.3 – Authorization To Execute Amendments To Joint Powers Agreements With Cities and Rural Solid Waste Commission For 2011 Funds

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners supports the development and implementation of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling programs in Dakota County communities; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County receives State grants to support waste management activities in communities; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has, since 1989, provided performance-based funding for a portion of the costs incurred by cities and the Rural Solid Waste Commission (RSWC) for operating local reduction, reuse, and recycling activities through an annual application process; and

WHEREAS, effective January 1, 1992, the County and the cities/RSWC entered into separate joint powers agreements (Agreements) to provide for cooperation and funding between the County and the cities/RSWC to implement and operate a local comprehensive landfill abatement program; and

WHEREAS, each year the Agreements are amended to revise funding amounts to reflect changes in the number of housing units and waste management priorities; and

WHEREAS, proposed funds are divided into operation and education, recycling container, and Local Negotiated Initiative Funds (LNIF); and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Council's published housing data, an allocation per household, and base fund are used to determine the proposed fund allocation for operations and education; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the recycling container funds are proposed for public area recycling; and

WHEREAS, the LNIF provides funding for cities or the RSWC to implement specific strategies that support Regional/Dakota County Solid Waste Master Plan outcomes, as part of a County/community workplan; and

WHEREAS, community funding amounts are approved by the County Board each year, as part of the Environmental Management Department budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Physical Development Director to execute amendments to the existing Joint Powers Agreements with cities and the Rural Solid Waste Commission to provide community funding for 2011, as presented to the Physical Development Committee of the Whole on September 21, 2010, subject to funding levels approved by the County Board as part of the 2011 budget, and subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

5.4 –Plat Commission Update – This was an information item; no action was requested.

6. REGULAR AGENDA

6.1 – Authorization To Submit Comment Letter On Metropolitan Council's Draft 2010 Regional Parks Policy Plan

Parks and Open Space Director Steve Sullivan briefed the Committee on staff's review of the Draft Regional Parks Policy Plan. He responded to questions.

Motion by Commissioner Schouweiler, Second by Commissioner Egan, and passed on a 5-0 vote (in the absence of Commissioners Branning and Harris) to recommend that the County Board adopt the following resolution which includes Option 2 that supports the draft 2010 Regional Parks Policy Plan as being consistent with the Dakota County Parks System Plan:

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Council must provide a comprehensive review and approval of the Regional Parks Policy Plan every four years; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Council is currently updating its Regional Parks Policy Plan; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Regional Parks Policy Plan is to establish policies that guide the Metropolitan Council and the regional park implementing agencies relating to 1) use, 2) acquisition, 3) stewardship, 4) development, and 5) financing for the regional parks system; and

WHEREAS, the plan also establishes regional park system expansion and changes including 1) boundary adjustments, 2) new regional units, 3) regional unit search areas, 4) recognition of regional status, and 5) regional study area; and

WHEREAS, the draft 2010 Regional Parks Policy Plan does not establish any significant new or amended policies compared to the 2005 plan, but has revised the document to be clearer and more readable; and

WHEREAS, the only policy changes of some substance are 1) allowing environmental assessments of acquisition parcels to be eligible for grant funding, and 2) requiring natural resource inventories with the master planning of destination regional trails; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 Dakota County Park System Plan differs from the adopted 2005 Regional Parks Policy Plan by including 1) Thompson - Kaposia - Kaposia Landing regional park study area, 2) North Creek Greenway Regional Trail, 3) Rosemount River Access Greenway Regional Trail, and 4) Chub Lake Greenway Regional Trail to serve southwest Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Council will consider releasing the draft 2010 Regional Parks Policy Plan for public comment at its October 13, 2010 meeting, and will consider adoption at its October 27, 2010 meeting; and

WHEREAS, there is an opportunity for the County Board to comment on the draft 2010 Regional Parks Policy Plan; and

WHEREAS, staff finds the draft 2010 Regional Parks Policy Plan is aligned with the Dakota County Park System Plan, and supports the existing and minor policy changes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes staff to prepare a letter to the Metropolitan Council for the County Board Chair's signature stating that the County Board has reviewed and supports the draft 2010 Regional Parks Policy Plan as being consistent with the Dakota County Parks System Plan.

6.2 – Authorization To Submit Comment Letter On Metropolitan Council's Draft 2010 Update to 2030 Transportation Policy Plan

Transportation Director Mark Krebsbach and Administrative Engineer Brian Sorenson briefed the Committee on staff's comments to the Draft Metropolitan Council 2010 2030 Transportation Policy Plan. They responded to questions. Concern was expressed about items not addressed in the Policy Plan. Staff were directed to revise the comment letter to Chairman Peter Bell and present it to the September 28, 2010 County Board meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Egan, Second by Commissioner Schouweiler, and passed on a 5-0 vote (in the absence of Commissioners Branning and Harris) to recommend that the County Board adopt the following resolution approving the submittal of a comment letter to Metropolitan Council, based on Commissioners concerns and comments expressed at the Physical Development Committee meeting on September 21, 2010. The revised letter will be presented to the County Board on September 28, 2010.

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Council (Met Council) Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) guides regional transportation planning and investments that are important to the residents and businesses of Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, the TPP provides policy direction that determines the Met Council and the Minnesota Department of Transportation support for necessary Dakota County transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Dakota County to provide comments and recommendations to the Met Council with respect to the proposed TPP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Board Chair to submit a letter to the Metropolitan Council Chairman to comment on and make recommendations regarding the Draft 2010 Update to the 2030 Transportation Policy Plan, incorporating comments and additions requested by the Physical Development Committee of the Whole meeting on September 21, 2010 and presented to the County Board on September 28, 2010.

6.3 – Adoption Of Greenway Collaborative Guidebook

Senior Planner Kurt Chatfield and Planning Analyst John Mertens presented this item and responded to questions. Concern was expressed with certain references to participation by other entities. Staff were directed to include caution on assumed funding options and possible overstatement of County responsibilities. Staff were also directed to change these references in the guidebook before the document is printed for distribution.

Motion by Commissioner Schouweiler, Second by Commissioner Egan, and passed on a 4-0 vote (in the absence of Commissioners Branning, Harris and Gaylord) to recommend that the County Board adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the 2008 Dakota County Park System defined a vision for a 200 mile interconnected system of regional greenways; and

WHEREAS, the greenway vision goes beyond the traditional regional trail and suggests enhanced open space corridors that perform multiple functions providing community benefits in the areas of water quality, habitat, recreation and non-motorized transportation; and

WHEREAS, strong agency collaboration is key to implementing the greenway vision; and

WHEREAS, the guidebook will serve as a framework for greenway projects providing a clear definition of a regional greenway; creating consistency across multi-jurisdictional corridors; and establishing roles and responsibilities of project partners; and

WHEREAS, over forty staff from partner communities participated in a facilitated process that led to the development of the draft Greenway Guidebook; and

WHEREAS, presentations were made to numerous city/county work groups, committees, commissions and councils; and

WHEREAS, both the Dakota County Planning Commission and Dakota County Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee have reviewed and recommended adoption of the Greenway Collaborative Guidebook.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the Greenway Collaborative Guidebook as a tool to help achieve the vision of a 200 mile network of regional greenways, as presented on September 21, 2010 with corrections and additions made as requested by the Physical Development Committee of the Whole, prior to the Greenway Collaborative Guidebook being printed for distribution.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Physical Development Director Lynn Thompson presented her update to the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Schouweiler, Second by Commissioner Workman to adjourn the meeting at 1:02 p.m.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Jeanne Nash Hoffmann
Administrative Coordinator